

O I P E IAP88
DEC 11 2006
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dkt. 57380-Z CCD

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Nicholas Charles PARSON et al.

Serial No.: 10/066,442

Group Art Unit 1742

Filed : February 1, 2002

Examiner: S. Ip

For : ALUMINIUM ALLOY AND EXTRUSION

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N.Y. 10036
December 5, 2006

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

In response to the Office Action dated June 5, 2006, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and further examination of the above-identified application for the reasons set forth below.

Attention is respectfully directed to the Declaration of Thiagarajan Ramanan under 37 C.F.R. §1.132, a Facsimile copy of which is attached hereto, with accompanying Exhibits 1-3.

Claims 9 - 24 are in the application. Of these, claims 9, 10, 13 and 14 are independent. All the claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over JP 61030684 (JP '684) in view of U.S. patent No. 3,879,194 (Morris et al.), and also as unpatentable over GB 1484595 (GB '595).

Prima Facie Obviousness

Claim 9 is directed to "a method of producing a population of aluminum alloy billets comprising performing *more than one cast of metal* wherein *each cast of metal* converts a body of molten metal comprising *virgin metal and recycled scrap* into a plurality of billets, and wherein said body has a composition within a specification such that *every billet of the population* has a composition (in wt %) consisting essentially of . . . Cu <0.015"